LYNCHBURG CITY COUNCIL Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE: **December 14, 2004**AGENDA ITEM NO.: 13

CONSENT: REGULAR: X CLOSED SESSION: (Confidential)

ACTION: **Public Hearing** INFORMATION:

<u>ITEM TITLE:</u> Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Programs - Public Hearing

Regarding Housing and Non-Housing Goals for 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan

<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Conduct a public hearing to receive citizen comments in defining needs and developing goals and objectives for the development of the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan.

<u>SUMMARY:</u> The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires state and local governments, which receive federal community development funds, to prepare a Consolidated Plan. The previous Consolidated Plan for Lynchburg was submitted in May 2000 and covered the period from July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2005. With the submittal of the annual Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Action Plan in May 2005 another five-year plan will need to be prepared and submitted for the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2010. This plan will outline the City's needs, goals, and objectives for community development (both housing and non-housing areas). City Council is seeking the input of citizens and other interested parties in defining/developing needs, goals and objectives, which are realistic given our limited resources. Once the plan has been prepared and approved by City Council, it will influence the expenditures of CDBG, HOME, and other state and federal grant funds. This plan will cover a five-year period, but will be considered for minor revisions on an annual basis along with the annual action plan.

Specifically, the public is invited to comment on the housing and non-housing community development needs common to low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods in Lynchburg. Individuals are asked to suggest priorities among these needs, as well as reasonable goals and objectives for addressing priority needs over the next five years. The current Consolidated Plan goals are attached to this report to provide guidance in developing new goals for the 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan.

City Council will consider the comments from the public hearing and approve the goals for the 2005-2010 Plan at the January 11, 2005 meeting.

PRIOR ACTION(S): N/A

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

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ATTACHMENT(S): Goals for 2000-2005 Consolidated Plan

REVIEWED BY: Ikp

2000-2005 CONSOLIDATED PLAN GOALS

Housing Goals

- Provide priority assistance to programs designed to create new home ownership opportunities available to low- and moderate-income buyers.
- Increase the number of owner-occupied housing units through support of public and private homebuyer programs. Emphasis is to be placed on programs, which require an investment of funds and/or labor on the part of the buyer, which are commensurate with the buyer's resources.
- Rehabilitate substandard housing units through support of public and private programs. Emphasis is to be placed on programs, which require an investment of funds and/or labor on the part of the owner, which are commensurate with the owner's resources. In addition, maintenance of homes will be enforced through applicable ordinances and building code requirements, and through owner initiatives to rehabilitate existing rental properties.
- Support initiatives to increase permanent affordable housing opportunities for low-income households and Special Needs Populations* and encourage regional cooperation of this goal throughout the Central Virginia Planning District.

*Special Needs Populations include, but are not limited to, the mentally ill/mentally disabled, physically disabled persons, substance abusers/addicts, persons with AIDS, the homeless, and elderly persons in need of supportive housing.

Non-Housing Goals

- Support economic development efforts, which will expand job opportunities and support job retention for low- and moderate-income individuals. Continue to take actions, which stimulate private, as well as public investment in designated enterprise zones.
- Eliminate neighborhood deterioration, blight and blighting influences through staged redevelopment of public infrastructure, rehabilitation activities, code enforcement, or clearance where needed.
- Support the improvement or development of neighborhood and community centers, which are integral
 to sound community development, and to the general health, safety, and public well being of the
 community.
- Support park and recreation improvements in relation to community need, particularly for low- to moderate-income persons or neighborhoods.
- Encourage the preservation of properties of special value for historic, architectural, or aesthetic reasons.